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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN, BRISBANE.

BULLETIN NO. 9 OF 1949.

PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, OCTOBER, 1948.

This bulletin has been prepared from preliminary tabulations, made available each month by the Commonwealth Statistician, of unemployed persons in Queensland who were in receipt of Commonwealth unemployment benefit at the end of October, 1948. The information covers only those persons actually in receipt of unemployment benefit, no account being taken of those whose applications for benefit were awaiting consideration or those who did not apply for benefit. The figures given, therefore, are only a part of total unemployment, although the proportions due to the various causes and in the various industries are broadly applicable to the total. Persons receiving sickness or special benefits are also excluded. Details for districts by causes and industries in which last employed are given in the attached tables.

Comparison with Previous Months.

October 1948 figures of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit were 700 males and 62 females, the total of 762 being 1,145, or 60 per cent., below the corresponding figure for the previous October.

<u>End of Month.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
		<u>1946.</u>			<u>1947.</u>	
November ..	3,570	94	3,664	1,664	70	1,734
December ..	5,971	168	6,139	2,245	69	2,314
		<u>1947.</u>			<u>1948.</u>	
January ..	7,262	228	7,490	3,094	73	3,167
February ..	7,394	198	7,592	5,603	223	5,826
March ..	6,505	184	6,689	6,055	310	6,365
April ..	4,698	149	4,847	2,669	110	2,779
May ..	3,935	151	4,086	1,559	89	1,648
June ..	3,102	129	3,231	1,102	71	1,173
July ..	2,747	113	2,860	718	67	785
August ..	2,089	97	2,186	702	64	766
September ..	1,912	87	1,999	640	67	707
October ..	1,827	80	1,907	700	62	762

In rising by 7.8 per cent. from September's record low level, the October total showed a reverse movement in comparison with the fall of 4.6 per cent. for October, 1947, but little significance can be attached to the very small changes in the figures for each of the last three months. Displacement of meatworks employees in the Townsville district more than offset reductions in unemployment during October in most other districts, of which no less than seven, or one-third of the total, had no persons drawing benefit at the end of the month.

Causes of unemployment are given on the next page for the months of October, 1947, and September and October, 1948, together with the decrease during the twelve months ended October, 1948, for each cause.

Compared with September, causes of unemployment for October showed little change in numbers, by far the greatest variation being an increase of 80 in "Seasonal Work and Weather Conditions".

Compared with figures of a year earlier (October, 1947), all causes showed decreases, the largest of which were in "Establishment Closed, Reduction of Staff" (248), "Casual Work" (246), and "Quitted because Work Too Heavy, Medically Unfit, etc." (147). These three causes together accounted for 56 per cent. of the total reduction of 1,145.

Cause of Unemployment.	October, 1947.	Sept., 1948.	October, 1948.	Decrease Oct., 1947, to Oct., 1948.
Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	49	6	3	46
Inefficiency, incompetence ..	70	17	21	49
Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment	368	130	120	248
Replaced by re-instated serviceman	45	16	12	33
Shortage of materials	76	69	58	18
Seasonal work and weather conditions	273	90	170	103
Casual work	337	102	91	246
Discharged or laid-off for other reasons	164	111	105	59
Quitted because work too heavy, medically unfit, etc. ..	267	107	120	147
Quitted for other reasons ..	113	33	36	77
Not previously employed ..	145	26	26	119
Total ..	1,907	707	762	1,145

The following statement shows, for each district, (i) the number of persons drawing benefit in the month of 1946-47 with the highest number, and in the corresponding month of 1947-48 - in some districts this was not the month with the highest unemployment in 1947-48 on account of the disturbance caused to normal seasonal trends by the railway strike, (ii) the numbers in October, 1947, September, 1948, and October, 1948, and (iii) the decrease from October, 1947, to October, 1948.

District.	Month.	(i) Peak Level of Unemployment.		(ii) Month of -			(iii) Decrease Oct., 1947, to Oct., 1948.
		1946-47.	1947-48.	October, 1947.	September, 1948.	October, 1948.	
Brisbane ..	Feb.	2,065	1,003	1,135	256	251	884
Ipswich ..	Dec.	190	22	30	25	21	9
Gympie ..	Feb.	30	136	8	7	9	1 ^a
Maryborough	Jan.	221	49	14	27	20	6 ^a
Bundaberg	Jan.	596	57	27	17	20	7
Toowoomba	Feb.	177	206	70	55	46	24
Warwick ..	Dec.	42	32	20	-	-	20
Roma ..	Dec.	24	8	6	2	-	6
Charleville	Dec.	75	34	13	8	8	5
Rockhampton	Jan.	1,462	482	256	113	107	149
Emerald ..	Jan.	10	6	1	5	-	1
Longreach	Dec.	117	78	14	8	10	4
Mackay ..	Mar.	861	784	46	41	35	11
Ayr ..	Feb.	233	356	10	13	-	10
Townsville	Mar.	616	739	80	101	212	132 ^a
Ingham ..	Mar.	440	208	3	2	-	3
Innisfail	Mar.	368	311	4	9	7	3 ^a
Cairns ..	Mar.	599	416	44	7	8	36
Charters Towers ..	Feb.	182	179	108	2	-	108
Atherton ..	Mar.	78	78	16	8	8	8
Hughenden	Feb.	62	17	2	1	-	2
Total State	Feb.	7,592	5,826	1,907	707	762	1,145

^a Increase.

Except for a rise of 111 in Townsville, district figures showed little variation compared with September.

Compared with October, 1947, there were noteworthy district improvements in Brisbane, where the number was 884 (78 per cent.) lower; in Rockhampton, where there was a decrease of 149 (58 per cent.); and in Charters Towers, where there was a fall of 108 to nil. In Townsville there was a rise of 132 (165 per cent.), due chiefly to a slackening of work in food and drink factories.

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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

BRISBANE.

23rd February, 1949.

Table No. 1 - Persons Receiving Unemployment Benefit, Queensland, October, 1948.Districts and Causes of Unemployment.

District.	Discharged or Laid-Off.								Quitted.		Not previously employed.	Total.	
	Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	Inefficiency, incompetence.	Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment.	Replaced by re-instated serviceman, relieving worker only.	Shortage of materials.	Seasonal work and weather conditions.	Casual work.	Discharged or laid-off for other reasons.	Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice.	Quitted for other reasons.		Number.	Per 10,000 population.
Brisbane	1	15	47	4	12	6	26	38	69	18	15	251	
Ipswich ..	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	16	-	1	-	21	
Moreton	1	16	47	4	13	6	28	54	69	19	15	272	5
Gympie ..	-	1	1	-	1	-	3	1	2	-	-	9	
Maryborough	-	-	2	1	3	1	3	3	6	1	-	20	
Bundaberg	-	1	4	-	2	3	3	1	6	-	-	20	
S.E.Coastal	-	2	7	1	6	4	9	5	14	1	-	49	4
Toowoomba	-	-	5	2	5	2	7	10	10	3	2	46	
Warwick ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Roma ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charleville	-	1	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	8	
Downs & S.W.	-	1	5	2	5	6	10	10	10	3	2	54	4
Rockhampton	-	1	15	-	24	20	10	17	9	3	8	107	
Emerald ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Longreach	-	-	1	2	-	3	2	1	1	-	-	10	
Central	-	1	16	2	24	23	12	18	10	3	8	117	12
Mackay ..	-	-	3	2	1	11	9	4	4	1	-	35	
Ayr ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Townsville	2	1	37	1	6	115	17	12	12	8	1	212	
Ingham ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Innisfail	-	-	-	-	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	7	
Cairns ..	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	8	
N.Coastal	2	1	44	3	9	131	27	18	17	9	1	262	17
Charters Towers ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Atherton	-	-	1	-	1	-	5	-	-	1	-	8	
Hughenden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
North-West	-	-	1	-	1	-	5	-	-	1	-	8	2
Total State	3	21	120	12	58	170	91	105	120	36	26	762	7

Table No. 2 - Persons Receiving Unemployment Benefit, Queensland, October, 1948,Districts and Industries.

District.	Industry in Which Last Engaged.														Total.
	Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairying.	Other Primary (including Mining).	Engineering.	Food and Drink Factories.	Other Factories.	Building and Construction.	Shipping and Wharf Work.	Transport.	Wholesale.	Retail.	Previously Employed by Australian or Allied Services.	Personal and Domestic Service.	Discharged Serviceman.	Other Industries.	
Brisbane ..	12	5	19	29	24	15	9	34	17	18	16	20	4	29	251
Ipswich ..	1	13	1	-	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	21
Moreton ..	13	18	20	29	24	18	9	36	17	18	16	21	4	29	272
Gympie ..	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	9
Maryborough	2	2	-	2	-	7	2	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	20
Bundaberg	1	-	-	6	1	3	1	-	-	3	-	4	-	1	20
S.E.Coastal	4	3	-	8	1	13	3	2	1	6	-	6	-	2	49
Toowoomba	5	2	3	2	4	7	-	5	3	1	-	8	-	6	46
Warwick ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Roma ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charleville	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Downs & S.W.	12	2	3	2	5	7	-	5	3	1	-	8	-	6	54
Rockhampton	10	15	1	39	7	15	2	3	1	7	-	3	-	4	107
Emerald ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Longreach	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	10
Central ..	14	17	1	39	8	15	2	3	2	7	-	5	-	4	117
Mackay ..	10	-	2	5	3	4	2	-	-	4	-	3	-	2	35
Ayr ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsville	15	4	5	114	6	22	3	14	3	3	8	11	-	4	212
Ingham ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Innisfail	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	7
Cairns ..	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	8
N.Coastal	25	6	7	124	11	27	7	14	4	8	8	15	-	6	262
Charters Towers ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Atherton ..	-	3	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Hughenden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North-West	-	3	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Total State	63	49	31	203	50	83	21	60	27	40	24	55	4	47	762

S/T 1980